

Amendments to the Specification

Please add new paragraph [Para 1A] before [Para 1]:

[Para 1A] CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS:

This application includes related subject matter to the subject matter in application Nos. 11/242,815; 10/907,472; 11/222,288 and 10/817,612.

Please replace [Para 1] with the following new paragraph:

[Para 1B] FIELD OF THE INVENTION:

Please replace [Para 40] with the following new paragraph:

[Para 40] Turning to figure 1, the novel process of making an elastomer includes the steps of mixing additive 20, plasticizing oil 30, and polymer 40 to form mixture 50. Plasticizing oil 30 may be heated prior to the addition of additive 20 and polymer 40 thereto, but such heating is not critical to the invention. Mixture 50 is melted in an extruder, a molding machine or other suitable heated vessel so that the additives become soluble in molten mixture 50 and remain in stable solution in the molten mixture. Molten mixture 50 is molded into the form of a useful item in mold 60 at an appropriate temperature. When allowed to cool, the mixture solidifies and forms elastomer 80. The additives begin to diffuse to the surface of the elastomer upon completion of the solidification process.

Precipitation may be initiated by seeding the surface of the elastomer 80 with ~~the~~ some powder 90 such as talcum powder.

Elastomer 80 is cooled to solidified elastomer 100 whereby the additive 20 precipitates to the surface of solidified elastomer 100 in the form of dry powder.

Please replace [Para 51] with the following new paragraph:

[Para 51] The diffusion rate of precipitate to the surface of the ~~linear~~ elastomer also increases as the stress to strain ratio decreases, *i.e.*, the diffusion rate increases as the modulus of the elastomer, or elastic limit stress, decreases.